

Main Street Reisterstown Program Minutes

Location/Date: Reter's Crabhouse, Reisterstown - December 3, 2012

Attendees: Amy Mantay, Glenn Barnes, Mary Molinaro, Calvin Reter, Irwin Kramer, Shirley Smith, Kathy Gambrell, Paul Davolos, Dan Carey, Karen Fitchett, Tony Baysmore

Glenn started the meeting thanking Dan Carey and his friend for completing the installation of the benches, trash cans and directory that we received from our first grant. Also, thanked Schuster Concrete for donated the concrete needed for the job.

Calvin reported about the visit by the State Comptroller to the Glyndon area to support small businesses. He unfortunately had to return to Annapolis before visiting Main Street and Calvin will try to set a future date with his office. Amy said to be sure to let her know so she can also participate. Some of the committee members who attended were Calvin, Paul, Alice, and Irwin.

Stakeholder list: need updates -- Amy opened the meeting saying that she hasn't received any updates to the Stakeholder List so requested that everyone work through their contact lists to send her address, phone and email info

Business list/map: is it finished -- Mary reported that she and Kathy worked together to correct them maps listing of businesses throughout the area. Both Mary and Kathy visited the actual locations to verify the data. Mary spent time on the SDAT website to also include property owners of as many properties as possible and forwarded a spreadsheet to those who attend the meetings. The addresses in bold/black print are members of RIA. Amy will take the map back to her office so it can be updated in her system.

Liquor License: Amy shared more information she received about the Liquor License issue in Baltimore County after a conversation with Mike Mohler and wants to ask him to attend a future meeting to answer any questions.

State regulations, by population, no license allowed within 300 feet of school or church.

Reisterstown is in the 4th election district, limit of 25 licenses, all currently taken, cost \$1,500.

Amy said there isn't any expectation of seeing this change. Tony said that Kevin Kamenetz went to the state last year to try and get relief in this situation, ran into great opposition, and was not successful for Baltimore County changes.

Class A (liquor store, sell 6 days), B (restaurant, 51% of sales has to come from food), C (civic club), D(tavern, 20% of space used for selling alcohol, can sell 7 days a week, no food sales requirement) – new class, Service Bar may be created in next few years

Special Exception License – number of licenses based on square footage (office park, TOD, shopping center), population/election district requirement not a factor

New legislation to all owners in the 15th district (Essex) to sell licenses – Amy said some districts are purchasing liquor licenses from others who own them. However, it is very expensive (upwards from \$100,000) as they are so highly desired and then transferring them into their district. Each district is allowed 5 new licenses this way per year.

BYOB:

No expensive license

Regulated by police department

Restaurants can charge a corkage fee – beer, wine, liquor

Business may not be impacted with higher liability insurance rates that come with having a liquor license

Some restaurant owners view it as a poor second choice because drinks subsidize food costs and/or are big profit items.

vs.

Liquor license:

Limited, expensive license

Regulated by liquor board

Drinks run up a higher tab for tips, helping keep quality staff = greater profit

Amy suggested this may be a good alternative for a small restaurant in the beginning if they can't immediately afford the higher priced license. Mary said that J&P in Glyndon is a BYOB establishment.

Press Release

Frona Cohen

March 2013

Press release goes out to all local media including TV and radio as well as the AP. Then Frona contacts County government reporter for the Baltimore Sun, etc.

Amy said they are looking to the spring time frame and it goes to a very wide area. If Kevin Kamenetz attends, she will get everyone involved and have TV coverage for us on Main Street. Mary commented that we should look to have all the benches, trash cans and directories the grants provided installed at that time. Irwin discussed an effort to encourage neighbors to spruce up their property. We discussed possibly having code enforcement do a sweep of Main Street to identify any violations. Mary commented that each year for the last 6 or 7 years Chartley Homeowners Association has arranged for a sweep of their community by code enforcement and while there are some complaints, the community in general feels the blight problem of unattended properties has improved making the neighborhood better for all residents and increasing property values. Amy said that she and her team in the planning

department can reach out to the owners to see if there is any assistance from the county of which they can take advantage. There are free architectural services and low cost loan opportunities about which owners may not be aware.

We discussed that the members of the Design Committee can work with the members of the Clean, Safe & Green committee to look for opportunities where we can assist – possibly cleaning the fronts of Main Street properties, weeding, planting, etc.

Glenn spoke about working with the county, Greg Kosky, to get the lampposts (light bulbs) on Main Street repaired and or replaced as there are some areas in the dark. Amy will talk to him about the situation and may be able to have him come to one of our meetings.

We concluded the meeting discussing *“10 great reasons to come to Reisterstown”*

Amy said she can use this as a list for the website.

--The Cow

--Walkable and easy to navigate

--Reter's Crabhouse

--Maryland Historical settings like: “Reisterstown Community Cemetery” and Baltimore County's first high school which is currently “Reisterstown library”

--Grille at Harryman House

--Movies done in the area “Cry Baby” and “Her Alibi”

--Antique Row

--Ski Shoppe

--Affordable leasing rates

--Convenience to 795

--Independent Book Store

The next meeting will be held at Reter's Crabhouse, Monday, December 10th at 10am.